

**Brad Rixford**  
**2003 Legends Honoree**  
**Bureau of Land Management**

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is proud of its outstanding 2003 Legends Honoree, Brad Rixford, Outdoor Recreation Planner, in the Butte Field Office, of the BLM's Montana State Office. For the last 20 years, Brad has worked tirelessly to enhance the recreation opportunities and experiences of the public visiting the public lands and waters under the jurisdiction of the BLM Montana's Butte Field Office. He has established a sterling reputation as a public service advocate and a BLM employee with a strong work ethic. Through his innovation and creativity, the Butte Field Office offers the public one of the most diverse and exciting recreation programs in the BLM.

Brad has been instrumental in meeting the increasing demands of the public for recreation facilities and other amenities along the highly visited Missouri and Big Hole River Corridors where annual visitation averages 200,000 visitor days. Brad has expanded the recreation program to now include 22 developed recreation sites, of which six of these sites are a component of the BLM's Recreation Fee Demonstration Program. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2001, these sites generated over \$90,000 in revenue to the sites for improvements and expanded visitor amenities. Brad has spearheaded the development of BLM campgrounds on Holter Lake, Houser Lake, and the Missouri and Big Hole River Corridors which are now considered one of the premier campground systems in the United States. The Holter Lake campgrounds consist of 160 camping units, 30 day use units, boat docks with 65 slips, multiple handicapped comfort facilities, swimming areas, fish cleaning stations, and group camping sites. Another example of Brad's dedication and hard work is the recent opening the new Devils Elbow Campground on Hauser Lake consisting of 60 campsites, including a state-of-the-art day use site complete with a volley ball court and swimming area.

Brad is responsible for monitoring and maintaining the integrity of six wilderness study areas, totaling 31,243 acres. He has established a close, personal relationship with the public in managing the nationally recognized Humbug Spires and Sleeping Giant Wilderness Study Areas. Brad works tirelessly with volunteers, private land owners, and specific user groups on trail system improvements, acquisition of inholdings, and promotion of WSA values and opportunities. He collaborates with user groups to educate their membership about appreciating, protecting, and conserving these exceptional resources by incorporating stewardship ethics principles into their daily lives.

Implementing the Secretary of the Interior's 4 C's of communication, consultation, collaboration all in the service of conservation, Brad is a valued member of the team working on the various issues surrounding the preservation and development of lands along the Missouri River Corridor. Within this 150 mile corridor, the BLM is responsible for the Canyon Ferry, Hauser, Upper Holter, and Holter lakes and works closely with the Bureau of Reclamation, Montana Power Company (MPC), Pacific Power and Light Montana (PP&L), Montana State Fish, Wildlife and Parks, USDA Forest Service, county and State governments, local legislatures, and adjacent private landowners in sharing recreation management responsibilities. Brad has spearheaded the cooperative effort involving multiple Federal and State agencies, MPC, and PP&L in the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) relicensing effort of the dams along the Upper Missouri River. That effort has resulted in the creation of a revolving fund generated from matching contributions from PP&L and MPC, totaling nearly \$15 million over a five year period. Brad has formed partnerships in leveraging resources with Lewis and Clark County for interpretive projects for the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial, as well as collaborated with PP&L on cost sharing a new project for the Holter Dam Recreation Site and a \$1 million match from P&L for the development of the Devils Elbow acquisition.

Brad is an enthusiastic ambassador for the proper use of the BLM public lands and waters. Whether he is working with private landowners or hosting field trips for the Montana Congressional Delegation, Brad consistently exhibits professionalism and foresight. His continued and tireless efforts for the BLM public lands and waters, the Butte Field Office, and his colleagues, have won him high praise from Government officials, recreation and tourism industry leaders, and from those who use and enjoy their public land recreation heritage.

Attachment 1